

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 9 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 and 9 have been amended herein.

Preliminary Matters

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-6 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Battat et al. (US 6,289,380; henceforth "Battat"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As amended herein, claim 1 recites:

"A system for managing the display of images representing network equipments of a communication network, said system comprising a plurality of elements associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory which represents said element within the level to which said element belongs with no specific attachment to a level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory which represents said element within the level to which said element belongs when said element is attached to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, and wherein said system further comprises **management means adapted to access said sets of primary and secondary data in order to extract from the memory the sets of primary or secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong to said designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment is received, and to access said sets of primary and secondary data in order to extract from the memory the sets of primary or secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to said designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received.**"

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Battat discloses a system for managing the display of images representing network equipments comprising substantially all of the features

recited in claim 1. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Battat discloses “said system comprising a plurality of elements associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data ... which represents said element with the level to which said element belongs with no specific attachment to a level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data ... which represents said element within the level to which said element belongs when said element is attached to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element...” Further, the Examiner asserts that Battat discloses a management means adapted as recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has misconstrued the reference.

Claim 1 recites at least two sets of data (primary data and secondary data) with which each element is associated. As recited therein, the primary data “represents said element within the level to which said element belongs with no specific attachment to a level higher than said element.” Claim 1 also recites that the secondary data “represents said element within the level to which said element belongs when said element is attached to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element.”

In asserting that Battat discloses the two types of data recited in claim 1, the Examiner points to fig. 10B. However, Fig. 10B only shows properties of an example class level and does not show any attachment “to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in said hierarchy”. The Examiner asserts that the “+” symbol located next to each property description represents secondary data, which upon expanding reveals the data higher or equal to the level in the hierarchy. However, as would be apparent to one of ordinary skill in art, these “+” symbols

only show that the properties of a given class are organized into different categories and do not show any attachment “to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in said hierarchy”. Therefore, Battat does not teach or suggest the at least two sets of data recited in claim 1.

Further, claim 1 as amended herein recites management means adapted to “access said sets of primary and secondary data in order to extract from the memory the sets of primary or secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong to said designated level and to levels lower than said equipment, when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment is received...” Claim 1 also recites that the management means is adapted to “access said sets of primary and secondary data in order to extract from the memory the sets of primary or secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong to only said designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received.” Battat also does not disclose management means adapted for both of the operations recited in claim 1.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and all claims depending from claim 1 are patentable over the Battat reference and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 recites features similar to claim 1 and is also patentable over the Battat reference for similar reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880 via EFS payment screen. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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